

Application No. 10/511,559 ----- 6

**Response to Restriction Requirement and Remarks**

In response to the requirement for restriction and election of species set forth in the aforementioned Office Action, applicants hereby elect for further prosecution at this time the claims of Group I, i.e., claims 1-9, 11, 17-21, 24, and newly added claim 25, drawn to Factor VIII polypeptides. This election is made with traverse.

Reconsideration of the restriction requirement vis-a-vis claims 12 and 13 is requested. The mere recitation in the claims that the claimed peptides bind MHC Class II molecules to some degree does not warrant restriction inasmuch as the peptides defined by these claims are structurally similar to those defined by the claims of Group I. The claim limitations set forth in claims 12 and 13 define certain criteria that characterize a preferred grouping of such peptides.

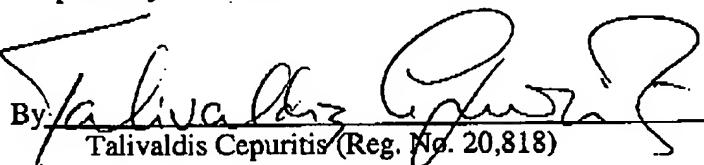
Regarding election of species, applicants hereby elect for examination the modified epitope P7 (residues 817-831 of SEQ ID NO: 73) having the V823A substitution. Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 20, 24 and 25 are readable thereon.

Claims 1-9, 11-13 and 17-25 are pending. Claims 18, 19 and 20 are amended so as to obviate inadvertent typographical errors. Claims 22 and 23 are canceled without prejudice.

New claim 25 is presented to define specifically the elected species. In view of the present cancellation of non-elected claims 22 and 23 no additional claim fee is believed to be due. Should an additional claim fee be deemed necessary, kindly charge our Deposit Account No. 15-0508.

An early action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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